

In the Claims

Claims 1-8 (Canceled).

9 (Currently Amended). ~~The apparatus of claim 1~~ An apparatus comprising:

a reflector;

a light source for producing light of a first polarization and light of a second polarization;

a linear polarizer which substantially passes light of the first polarization and substantially reflects light of the second polarization;

a phase retarder disposed between the reflector and the linear polarizer; and

wherein the light source is disposed between the phase retarder and the linear polarizer.

10 (Original). The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the phase retarder is mechanically coupled to the reflector and has substantially a same shape as the reflector.

Claim 11 (Canceled).

12 (Original). The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the light source comprises a substantially spherical light cavity having a reflective inner surface, and having a first window and a second window through the reflective inner surface, the first and second windows being disposed at substantially opposite sides of the light cavity.

13 (Original). The apparatus of claim 12 wherein the phase retarder and the reflector are disposed substantially in an optical path with the first window, and the linear polarizer is disposed substantially in an optical path with the second window.

14 (Original). The apparatus of claim 13 wherein the phase retarder, the reflector, and the linear polarizer are of substantially planar shape.

15 (Original). The apparatus of claim 9 wherein the light source comprises:
an RF-driven plasma light source having a bulb, and having a reflective coating surrounding the bulb and the phase retarder.

Claims 16-29 (Canceled).

30 (Original). The system of claim 23 wherein the reflector means comprises a substantially planar reflector.

Claims 31-36 (Canceled).